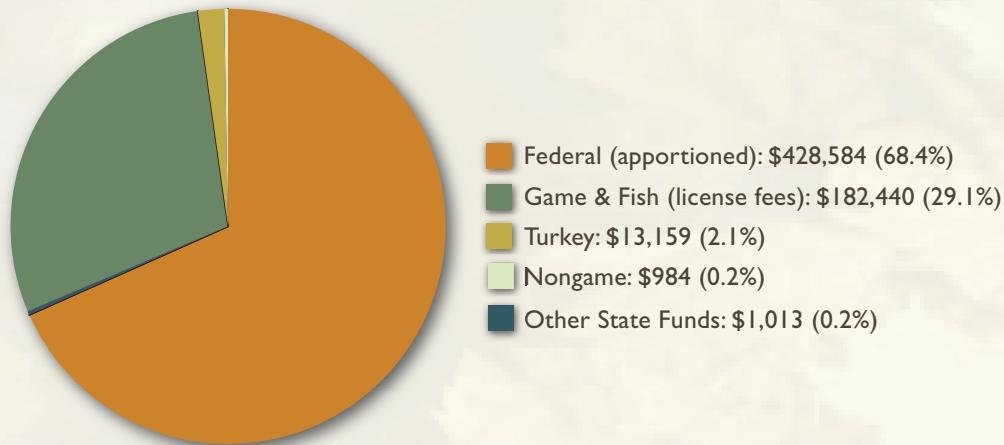


A photograph of a red maple leaf lying on a wooden deck. In the background, two people are standing near a wooden building, and there are trees. The text "Training and Conferences" is overlaid in the center.

Training and Conferences

Fiscal Year 2010

Training and Conference Expenditures by Fund Source



The Wildlife Division invested:

- 12,060 hours on personnel training and conferences

The Wildlife Division tailors employee training to individual and program needs. Each year, the division's training coordinator prepares an annual training plan based on a combination of feedback from staff and mandatory training requirements. Reviewed and approved by the division management team and incorporated into the annual work planning process this training plan emphasizes leadership skills, safety, professional development, compliance with state and federal regulations, use of technology and continuing education in the evolving science of wildlife management.

Wildlife Division staff attended 553 training sessions in 2010. The best-attended training sessions covered firearms safety, the use of handheld devices for deer-check-station data entry, waterfowl banding, wildfire response, and capture and immobilization of wildlife. Other important training events included safety awareness for oil spill workers, privately owned cervid facility audit and inspections, and truck safety.

In September 2010, the Wildlife Division assisted in coordinating and hosting the 100th annual Association of Fisheries and Wildlife Agencies meeting in Grand Rapids. Many Wildlife Division staff members attended this meeting, which was an opportunity for wildlife directors, leaders and staff from around the United States and Canada to provide updates on key wildlife issues and projects.